Mayor William I. May, Jr.

Issue 4, December, 2005



# Frankfort Sewer Department

1200 Kentucky Avenue, frankfort, KY 40601

**Commissioners** 

**Lynn Bowers** J.W. Bryan Kathy Carter Rodney S. Williams

#### GREASE PROGRAM APPROVED FOR FRANKFORT

A leading cause of sewer blockages across the U.S. is the accumulation of fats, oils and grease (FOG) in the sanitary sewer systems. Grease traps are an effective method of controlling grease from food service establishments, provided that they are maintained. On December 15, 2005, the Frankfort City Commission approved revisions to the Industrial Pretreatment Program that brings restaurants and other food service establishments into this program. In January 2006, the Frankfort Sewer Department will begin permitting food service establishments to insure that they have functioning grease traps and that they are properly maintained.

Everyday in household and commercial kitchens, large amounts of fats, oils and grease are produced. This new FOG program will have a tremendous impact on the proper operation of the sewer collection system by controlling FOG at the source in commercial operations. Grease collects on the sewer pipes and in pump station wet wells and is the leading cause of sewer backups and overflows in our system. These blockages can also cause sanitary sewer overflows into local waterways and backups into nearby homes and businesses. Backups can present a serious health hazard and can also be costly in damage to property and in cleanup costs. The maintenance cost associated with the blockages is passed along to all sewer ratepayers. Clearly, the prevention of grease entering into our sanitary sewers is the key to our problem.

Under this new program, all food service establishments are required to install and maintain a grease trap to control the discharge of grease into the sewer lines. What is a grease trap and how does it work? A grease trap is a small reservoir built into the wastewater piping a short distance from the grease producing area. Baffles in the reservoir retain the wastewater long enough for the grease to congeal and rise to the surface. The grease can then be removed and disposed of properly at the wastewater treatment plant or other appropriate facility.

If you are interested in learning more about the Frankfort Sewer Department FOG Program, please contact Richard Long, FOG Inspector, at the 875-2448.

#### Taking Care of Business

(excerpts from customer letters and phone calls):

"I would like to take this opportunity to compliment your staff on their assistance with the Game Farm Sewer Project especially Robert Barker. Not only did Mr. Barker take the time to explain common difficulties or mistakes encountered in the installation of a sewer system, but he also provided some much need diplomacy for the project - Mr. Barker went the extra mile. We encountered a concerned citizen who lives along the project path. Mr. Barker could have told the Department that a citizen's concerns were our problem, not his, but instead he provided a critical communication bridge to this citizen which helped the citizen to discuss his concerns directly with me. Thank you-Charles O. Bush, P.E., Director of Engineering, Dept. of Fish & Wildlife Resources.



The Employee of the Quarter Award was created to recognize an employee that provides excellent service to our customers or an employee that has exhibited outstanding performance in the execution of their duties.

The recipient for the fourth quarter of 2005 is Gregg Hosley. Gregg joined FSD in 2002 as a Field Inspector. Since that time, Gregg inspects all aspects of sewer installations, including work by plumbers and contractors for conformance with department policies and City ordinances. He also inspects construction projects, agricultural meters, sewer taps and sewer extension projects.

Gregg represents the City of Frankfort and the department well with his dealing with the public and is always professional in his appearance and his attitude.

#### **FSD Contact Information**

Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Phone: (502) 875-2448 (502) 223-7857 Fax:

- William R. Scalf, Jr., P.E. Director
- Robert Barker
- Deputy of Collection System
- Robert Oerther **Deputy Director of Operations**
- Robert Peterson, P.E. Senior Engineer
- Carol Atha Office Manager
- Lisa Sekula Office Assistant

Visit our website at: www.cityoffrankfortky.com

## Expanding our knowledge and expertise to serve our community better . . .

- ⇒ October 18 (Lisa Sekula) attended the "The Basics of Knock-Your-Socks-Off Customer Service" seminar in Lexington, KY
- ⇒ November 3 (Robert Peterson, Robert Barker, and Danny Hammond) traveled to Hamilton, Ohio to evaluate a pump control system for possible future use at our pump stations.
- ⇒ November 15 (Lisa Sekula) attended the "How to Handle Difficult People" seminar in Lexington, KY.
- ⇒ November 17 (Carol Atha, Chip Gill, and Danny Hammond) attended the "Conducting Employee Performance Evaluations" seminar in Lexington, KY.
- ⇒ December 6 (Robert Oerther) attended the "Emerging Contaminants in Wastewater Webcast" through the Water Environment Federation sponsored by FMSM Engineers in Louisville, KY.
- ⇒ December 5-7 (Bill Scalf) attended the "Infrastructure Security Conference" through EPA in Vicksburg, MS.
- ⇒ December 15 (Bill Scalf and Robert Oerther) attended the "Municipal Wastewater Utility Legal Seminar" sponsored by Greenebaum, Doll & McDonald in Louisville, KY.

#### Little Known Facts . . .

- ⇒ In 1890, Scott Paper Company introduces toiler paper on a roll. The Scott Paper Company was once so embarrassed that it was manufacturing toilet paper that it wouldn't put its label on the product.
- ⇒ In 1833, Andrew Jackson's home had both an indoor bathroom and running water.
- ⇒ By 1910, there were only about 25,000 miles of sewer lines in the United States, mostly in urban areas.
- ⇒ In 1972, the Clean Water Act was enacted to force municipalities and industries to control pollution by cleaning wastewater before discharging it into waterways.



Seasons Greetings From FSD

### Focus on Terry Hopper Sewer Tech III



Terry began his employment with the City in June, 2004 as a Collection System Maintenance I. He is a licensed Journeyman Plumber through the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

As a part of his job requirements, he must maintain a CDL and be able to read and interpret blueprints. Terry performs duties related to the operation, maintenance, locating and installation of sanitary sewer lines. He operates motorized equipment including the backhoe, crane truck, vacuum excavator and the rod machine. He interacts with the homeowners as necessary to explain work activities on their property.

He lives in Frankfort and served in the U.S. Army. Terry has two daughters and enjoys fishing and golfing in his spare time.

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED